

17075. Misbranding of Ru-Bon. U. S. v. 3 Bottles of Ru-Bon No. 1, et al. Default decrees of condemnation and destruction. (F. & D. Nos. 24214, 24292. I. S. Nos. 017658, 019869, 019870, 019871, 025701, 025702. S. Nos. 2399, 2540.)

On November 8 and November 29, 1929, respectively, the United States attorneys for the District of Nebraska and the Southern District of Ohio, acting upon reports by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said districts libels praying seizure and condemnation of 3 bottles of Ru-Bon No. 1, 31 bottles of Ru-Bon No. 2, and 30 bottles of Ru-Bon No. 3, remaining in the original unbroken packages in part at Omaha, Nebr., and in part at Cincinnati, Ohio, alleging that the article had been shipped by the Ru-Bon Chemical Co., from Kansas City, Mo., in various consignments, on or about July 10, 1929, September 10, 1929, October 10 and October 26, 1929, respectively, and transported from the State of Missouri into the State of Nebraska, and charging misbranding in violation of the food and drugs act as amended.

Analyses of samples of the articles by this department showed that Ru-Bon No. 1 consisted essentially of chrysarobin pyroxylin, ether, and alcohol; Ru-Bon No. 2 consisted essentially of chrysarobin, salicylic acid, resorcin, glycerin, volatile oils including oil of bay, alcohol, and water; and Ru-Bon No. 3 consisted essentially of resorcin, salicylic acid, chrysarobin, volatile oils including oil of bay, glycerin, alcohol, and water.

The article was labeled in part: (Ru-Bon No. 1, bottle) "For Psoriasis and Dry Chronic Stubborn Eczema * * * When the skin begins to clear, use No. 1 on the still scaly spots;" (Ru-Bon No. 2, bottle) "For Dry, Stubborn, Chronic Eczema and Parasitic Infections * * * Acne * * * apply Ru-Bon No. 2 on spots affected;" (Ru-Bon No. 3, bottle) "Ru-Bon No. 3 * * * For Eczema—Tetter * * * Itching Feet, Leg Ulcers * * * First Aid for * * * all Parasitic Affections;" (Ru-Bon No. 3, portion of bottle) "No. 3 may be applied * * * for 'Weeping' Eczema * * * any tender sore skin * * * For Infantile Eczema, * * * for children in skin affections;" (Ru-Bon Nos. 2 and 3, carton) "The Ru-Bon compounds * * * constitute * * * resolvents, purifiers and naturalizers of skin affections. They have been formulated primarily for Eczemas, the skin diseases commonly so recognized, variously manifested and variously defined. Out of the experience * * * remarkable properties in treatment of many skin diseases, akin in fact or in popular conception, to that for which they were primarily formulated;" (Ru-Bon No. 1, carton) "For Psoriasis * * * of tried and proved potency for Psoriasis * * * The Ru-Bon Compounds, of vegetable derivatives, constitute * * * resolvents, purifiers and naturalizers of skin affections. They have been formulated primarily for Eczemas. * * * Ru-Bon No. 1. This is formulated specially for the treatment of Psoriasis. It, too, supplements Ru-Bon No. 3 in the treatment of very stubborn eczemas; * * * Psoriasis, a disease of the skin, * * * Cure consists in dissolving and removing the patches; in cleansing and antiseptizing the noxious conditions; and in restoring natural functions of the skin * * * Ru-Bon No. 1 contains as its distinctive ingredient a derivative of a garden herb long used as a home remedy for the disease. * * * Ru-Bon No. 1 has * * * proved its worth, justified the claims made for it as a prescription for Psoriasis. * * * Repaint often enough to keep spots covered all the time until a true healthy skin appears. * * * When the affections begin to disappear, keep a covering of Ru-Bon No. 1 on the spots remaining and bathe with Ru-Bon No. 3 until all the skin is healthy;" (Ru-Bon No. 2, carton) "Remedy for Eczema. For all varieties of Eczema, properly defined, whether chronic or acute. To supplement Ru-Bon No. 3, when the stubborn character of the disease requires greater strength than Ru-Bon No. 3 affords. * * * Apply Ru-Bon No. 2 on spots affected * * * Ru-Bon No. 2 * * * Added strength makes it more effective resolvent of scales, crusts and callouses; * * * For Eczema * * * For Eczema of Scalp * * * For Common Acne and Pimples;" (Ru-Bon No. 3, carton) "Prescription for Eczema. For all varieties of Eczema, properly defined, whether chronic or acute. For relief from Itchings, Eruptions, Salt Rheum * * * Itching Feet. First aid for * * * all parasitic infections. * * * Ru-Bon No. 3 * * * is peculiarly suited to the ordinary manifestations and course of Eczema; * * * Its efficiency in multiplied skin troubles, * * * Ru-Bon Remedy No. 3 * * * for the usual forms and ordinary cases of Eczema. Unless complicated by formations of hard scales, crusts, or cal-

louses, Ru-Bon No. 3 will * * * remove the affections and restore healthy conditions. When stubborn scales or crusts are present, Ru-Bon No. 3 should be supplemented by Ru-Bon No. 2 (in very exceptional cases, by Ru-Bon No. 1) the Ru-Bon prescriptions of superior strength. Ru-Bon No. 3 is likewise used to check the first approaches of Eczema when detected; especially to check developments should symptoms reappear. Ru-Bon No. 3 * * * for parasitic poisons. * * * No. 3 may be applied on affected parts * * * For 'Weeping' Eczema, * * * or any tender sore skin * * * For Infantile Eczema and for children in all skin affections * * * apply No. 3 * * * For Dandruff apply No. 3;" (small leaflet accompanying all 3 preparations) "Number 3 is * * * the only one necessary for 80 per cent of ordinary skin troubles;" (testimonial sheet accompanying portion of Ru-Bon No. 2) "For the first time in 35 years I am free from all traces of Eczema * * * Your remedy has proved itself a wonder;" (large leaflet accompanying all 3 preparations) "For Sore Mouth, Gums or Loose Teeth rinse or swab with No. 3 Ru-Bon. For sore Throat or Tonsils gargle Three-Fourths Water One-Fourth No. 3 Ru-Bon;" (4-page folder accompanying all 3 preparations) "The story of the Discovery and the Development of Ru-Bon by Mr. Minter while healing himself of Eczema (Psoriasis) * * * three prescriptions in the treatment of Eczema. * * * for thirty-five years a constant sufferer from psoriasis. Undergoing at one time a most virulent attack, he was advised by a chance acquaintance that, abroad his trouble was known among common folk as English leprosy and that the home remedy and cure was from poultices made principally of scrapings of rhubarb roots. * * * worked out a prescription which * * * in the course of a few weeks cleared his skin entirely of psoriasis spots * * * the remedies got their name—rhubarb or Ru-Bon. * * * had encouraged a large number of persons like afflicted to try the prescriptions * * * the amazingly curative properties of it [testimonials] * * * troubled with Eczema for some thirty odd years * * * cured by Ru-Bon * * * I had Eczema sores on my body and limbs. My head and back of ears were also badly affected. There is not a spot of eczema on me now. I used Remedy No. 2 every night. * * * Ru-Bon cured me. * * * I was troubled with Eczema on my feet for over three years; * * * I used Ru-Bon; it cured me in about three weeks. * * * I have been using Ru-Bon just two weeks; my improvement is wonderful; * * * I want those who suffer with eczema to have a chance to get the relief which your remedies will surely give them. * * * I am sending you the worst cases of eczema I know of and I hope Ru-Bon may do for each of them what it has done for me * * * My little girl has Eczema very bad * * * two bottles * * * The little girl is cured. * * * Eczema on my leg for eighteen months * * * Ru-Bon Remedies cured me. I would take pleasure in recommending them to any one afflicted with eczema. * * * Eczema, the disease for which this remedy has been primarily formulated, has varied forms and manifestations as it affects various individuals. * * * the essential thing being to put the corrective agents contained in Ru-Bon in contact with the roots of the trouble * * * Ru-Bon No. 3 * * * for the more usual and tractable manifestation of Eczema. It carries * * * the herb derivative which * * * produced the results in Mr. Minter's own case. * * * It can always be applied, however acute the affections. * * * Ru-Bon No. 3, Is The Prescription To Check and Prevent Recurrences. Applied freely when symptoms appear, it has proved most highly serviceable. Users acclaim No. 3 Ru-Bon a sure preventative of recurrences when elimination by it has once been effected. * * * Ru-Bon No. 2 is the prescription for use when a more vigorous attack upon the disease must be made; when hard crusts, scales or callouses—chronic conditions—must be penetrated, resolved and overcome. * * * results are produced by the use of the stronger preparation * * * Ru-Bon No. 1 * * * It is preeminently the preparation for Psoriasis—for chronic stubborn Eczema. * * * it gets to the seat of the trouble * * * Apply Ru-Bon No. 3 * * * for Eczema as primarily manifested * * * For Infantile Eczema * * * For any signs or symptoms of the Return of Eczema after a cure has once been effected. * * * For * * * all parasitic poisons * * * For all Itching of the skin * * * Apply Ru-Bon No. 2 on Affected Spots * * * For crusted, scaled, Chronic eczema * * * For common Acne and pimples * * * Apply Ru-Bon No. 1 to affected areas * * * for Psoriasis for Chronic, Stubborn Eczema of all kinds."

It was alleged in the libels that the article was misbranded in that the above-quoted statements regarding the therapeutic or curative effects of the said article were false and fraudulent, since it contained no ingredient or combination of ingredients capable of producing the effects claimed.

On December 16, 1929, and January 7, 1930, no claimant having appeared for the property, judgments of condemnation and forfeiture were entered, and it was ordered by the court that the product be destroyed by the United States marshal.

ARTHUR M. HYDE, *Secretary of Agriculture.*

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